





National Summer Learning Association











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ABOUT NSLA

NSLA is a national, non-profit organization focused on the powerful impact of one achievable goal: investing in summer learning to help close the achievement gap. NSLA uses the power of research, advocacy, training, and policy to transform America's neighborhoods and communities, one child at a time.

Our work is based on the simple idea that summer—a time that is easily overlooked yet critical to educational development—is bursting with possibility, and instrumental in closing the achievement gap between privileged children and our most vulnerable children.



WHY SUMMERS MATTER



Summer is the time of greatest inequity for young people. When schools are closed, many low income young people lack access to meals, books and other learning resources, and physical activity.



WHY SUMMERS MATTER

During the school year, resources are turned ON.



WHY SUMMERS MATTER

During the summer, the faucet is turned OFF for low-income youth.





Elementary school students with high levels of attendance (at least five weeks) in voluntary SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS experience benefits in math and reading.

Augustine, Catherine H., Jennifer Sloan McCombs, John F. Pane, Heather L. Schwartz, Jonathan Schweig, Andrew McEachin, and Kyle Siler-Evans, Learning from Summer: Effects of Voluntary Summer Learning Programs on Low-Income Urban Youth, Santa Monica, Calif.: RAND Corporation, RR-1557-WF, 2016.



Our Strategy

Building systems at the national, state, and local level.



Local Level

Focus Effort

Improve summer opportunities for millions of kids and build a coalition to drive state strategy



State Level

Increase Effort

Invest where there is potential for rapid yet lasting change and create models for national action



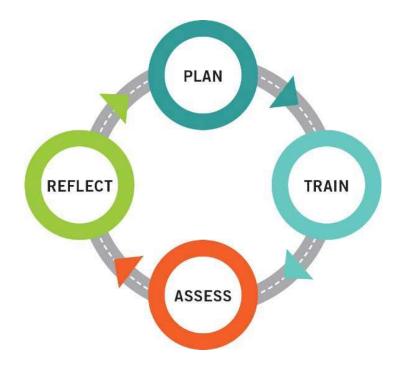
National Level

Sustain But Reinvent Efforts

Defend existing funding and leverage existing programs for better information and new opportunities

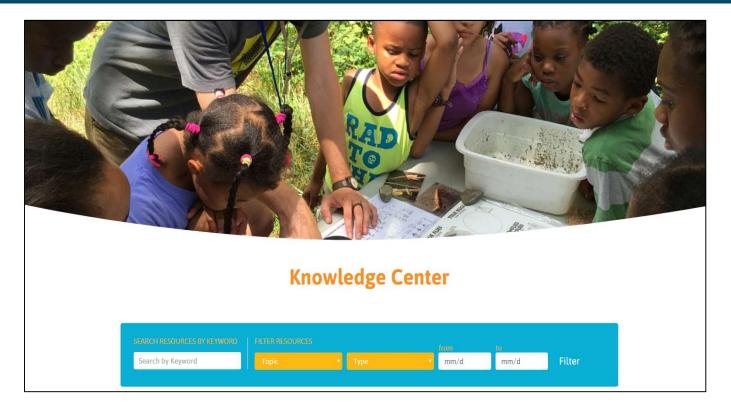
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT CYCLE

- •PLAN: Set quality improvement goals and develop and implement a plan for achieving them.
- •TRAIN: Develop staff understanding and ownership of program quality goals and strategies.
- •ASSESS: Look for evidence of quality improvement during the program.
- •REFLECT: Review summer program data and debrief with key stakeholders.





NSLA KNOWLEDGE CENTER



www.summerlearning.org



SUMMER STARTS IN SEPTEMBER

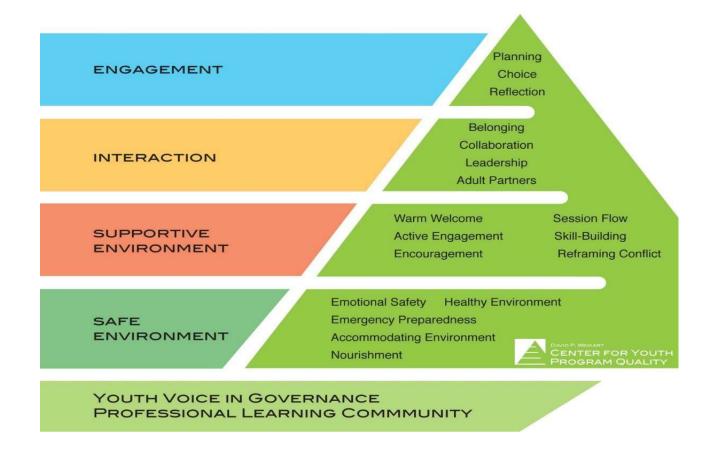


Summer Starts in September

A Comprehensive Planning Guide for Summer Learning Programs



SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM QUALITY ASSESSMENT





NATIONAL SUMMER LEARNING WEEK







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